

Soil Survey Areas - Content Description

Section IIA. Soils Information contains a folder for every Alaska soil survey area. The survey area is indicated by the folder name. All content was derived from either the National Soils Information System (NASIS) or the final soil survey manuscript. All content has been certified for distribution and use by the State Soil Scientist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Alaska.

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Attribute Database

The attribute database contains detailed soils properties and interpretation data for a soil survey area. The database also contains an easy to use interface for generating reports from the data. You can generate tables for all map units in the survey area or for selected map units only. The database is a Microsoft Access 97 database. To use it as a standalone database, you must have Microsoft Access 97 or later on you computer. Also, you must download the database to your computer's hard disk and, if necessary, disable the "read only" property for it to work properly.

As a standalone application in Microsoft Access, the database opens to the "Soil Reports" form. From the "Soil Reports" form, you can select which soil report to view and which map units to include in the report. Click on "Selection Help" on the form for help in selecting map units. After selecting one or more map units from the map unit list and a report from the report list, click on "Generate Report" to view the report.

Some reports require additional input parameters. When a report of this kind is selected from the report list, the "Generate Report" button changes to "Select Parameters". Click on "Select Parameters" and make the appropriate additional input selections from the form. Click on "Generate Report" to view the report.

Additional information about the database can be viewed in the various systems reports, accessible from the "System Reports" button on the "Soil Reports" form. System reports describe the functionality and structure of the database, as well as document the vintage of the soil survey data that currently resides in this database.

If you close the "Soil Reports" form, go to the "Forms" tab in the database window, right click on the "Soil Reports" form, and select "Open" from the popup menu.

The attribute database also is designed to work together with USDA Soil Data Viewer to generate and display tabular reports and with a digitized soil map, ESRI ArcView software, and Soil Data Viewer to process and display interpretive maps.

Soil Data Viewer (SDV), developed and distributed by USDA NRCS, provides easy access to NRCS soils data to process and display tabular reports and interpretive maps. SDV displays tabular reports generated from the attribute database. SDV produces maps in ESRI ArcView from digital soil data and the attribute database.

Additional information: <http://www.itc.nrcs.usda.gov/soildataviewer/>

ArcView is Geographic Information System (GIS) software developed and distributed by Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) for desktop GIS and mapping. ArcView enables you to visualize, explore, query, and analyze data geographically.

Additional information: <http://www.esri.com/>

Other Reports

Other reports contain data that can not be generated from the Attribute Database. Report content is indicated by the report title.